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TOWN OF GRAFTON
GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD
GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01519
www.grafton-ma.gov

Grafton Historic District Commission

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Conference Room G (2nd floor)

Member Attendees: Pan Du, Betsy Gilgun, Bill Nicholson, Brad Schlapak, John Morgan and Paul Scarlett

- **Call to Order**
 - Mr. Nicholson called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.
- **Clerk's Report**
 - Mr. Scarlett inadvertently forwarded the July minutes rather than the minutes from the August meeting. Accordingly, review, discussion and approval of the August minutes had to be passed over until next month.
- **Bills**
 - None discussed.
- **Old Business**
 - Common Improvements Project
 - Mr. Scarlett advised the change order situation for the work on the bandstand has not yet been resolved as we have not been able to meet with the contractor to discuss what can be further considered from a value engineering perspective to help lower the overall cost of the proposed improvements. He also indicated he was working with Mr. Dixon and Mr. Deschenes to determine an approach for validating the reasonableness of the pricing we have been provided. At this juncture, we are not ready to go before the Select Board. He further clarified the information needed to secure pricing from the contractor for installation of a backflow preventer within the existing irrigation system on the Common has been secured and provided to JAM Corp. for their review. We currently await their pricing for this work. Mr. Scarlett will cancel the planned 10/5/21 visit to the Select Board and will reschedule once the needed information is in hand and we have discussed and determined how we wish to proceed with the change orders.

- Mr. Morgan questioned how the conduit for the electricity needed to power the archway lanterns will work. Mr. Scarlett indicated he would need to defer to Mr. Deschenes on this. Also requested was confirmation that the trees planted are within the 2"-3" circumference that was specified in the RFP. Mr. Morgan suggested it also would be helpful to have a listing of the items remaining to be done. Mr. Scarlett indicated he would request this info be provided by Mr. Deschenes.
 - The old public water fountain was discussed relative to the possibility of incorporating it into the backflow preventer work as a means for helping to disguise the pipes that will be left above ground. Mr. Du and Ms. Gilgun were not familiar with the fountain and wanted to see what it looks like. Mr. Nicholson advised that he'd ask the Director of Public Works, Paul Cournoyer, to send a picture for the Commission's reference.
- **Library Expansion Project**
 - Mr. Cournoyer advised the Commission via email earlier this week that a backup electrical generator was not included within the scope of this project (one is not required by code). This has raised some concerns due to the potential for freezing pipes in the winter and the inability to use the building as a shelter in times of an extended disruption of power. The town is looking for alternative funding sources for the purchase and installation of such a generator. Mr. Cournoyer provided this heads up to the Committee in light of the need for HDC approval. The generator will need to be installed in the corner of the original building near where the entrance to the Children's room used to be. Although this spot is visible from the Upton Street side of the building, it is where the electric service is located and any other location would require much more work and expense. Fencing would be used to hide the generator from the street. Mr. Nicholson indicated he would request Mr. Cournoyer send pictures of the similar generators he advised exist at other public buildings within the town. Further discussion on this matter will be needed.
- **Executive Session**
 - None held.
- **Adjournment**
 - Mr. Morgan motioned to adjourn at 8:10 PM, Mr. Scarlett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Paul A. Scarlett, clerk.